

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

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New Year, New Grantees

In case you missed it, the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs distributed [\\$7 million in recovery grants](#) last month for Iowa's arts, cultural and creative industry, made possible by CARES Act funding allocated by Governor Kim Reynolds in early December.

The list of [grant recipients](#) includes individual artists along with music venues, cultural heritage festivals, theaters, community arts councils, historical museums and performing arts centers.

And just last week, the Iowa Arts Council announced another round of grants totaling more than \$1.3 million through three statewide programs: [Iowa Great Places](#), [Strengthening Communities](#) and [Virtual Arts Experiences](#).

From transformative placemaking projects to innovative online arts learning programs, these grant-funded projects demonstrate that arts and culture are evolving – and essential – during times of change.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE RECENT GRANTS

Federal Relief for the Arts

Webinar: Shuttered Venue Operators Grant

3 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 14

Hosted by the U.S. Small Business Association

Are you interested in learning more about the upcoming "Save Our Stages" grant opportunity, directly from the federal agency that will administer the program?



The U.S. Small Business Administration is hosting an informational webinar to provide a preliminary overview of the Shuttered Venue Operators Grant program, also known as "Save Our Stages," which was enacted as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021.

The grant program will be open to live venues, live performing arts organizations, movie houses and other cultural institutions across the country. Tune in to learn more about the grants, who can apply, how applicants can prepare, and additional details regarding eligibility and applications.

REGISTER FOR THE WEBINAR

Webinars: Paycheck Protection Program

1 p.m. Jan. 15 and 22

Hosted by Americans for the Arts

Last week, the U.S. Treasury and Small Business Administration released guidelines for the next round of Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans authorized by the latest federal relief package. Notably, the new relief package includes assistance for music venues and extends unemployment benefits for many types of creative workers. Americans for the Arts will host a pair of webinars about these and other Covid-19 relief opportunities.



REGISTER FOR THE WEBINAR



Iowa Fine Arts Education Summit: Call for Proposals

The Iowa Arts Council, Iowa Department of Education and Iowa Alliance for Arts Education are seeking session proposals for the virtual 2021 Iowa Fine Arts Education Summit set for June 17.

This year's summit will focus on incorporating social-emotional learning in the fine arts classroom. The summit's keynote address and breakout sessions will offer an array of practical tips to show how fine arts education can help students understand and manage emotions, achieve positive goals, show empathy, maintain positive relationships and make responsible decisions.

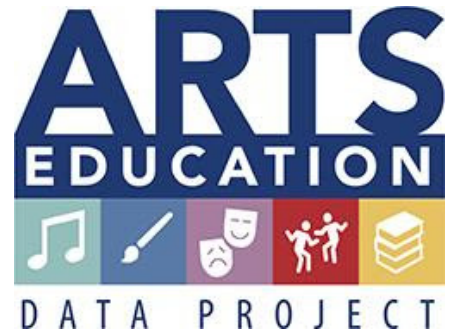
If you'd like to present a session or nominate someone who might, please let us know by **Monday, Jan. 25**.

SUBMIT A PROPOSAL

Iowa Arts Education Data Project

The Iowa Arts Education Data Project recently unveiled a user-friendly, interactive dashboard to showcase the latest information about arts education in Iowa. The dashboard can be used to promote meaningful dialogue about arts education that helps districts, schools, educators,

community members and policymakers make equitable and data-driven decisions to support a well-rounded education for all Iowa students.



[SEE THE DASHBOARD](#)



Show Your Support

The Iowa Alliance for Arts Education is gearing up for its annual Arts Advocacy Day. It will take place virtually on **Jan. 20**.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Literary Arts

The Iowa Arts Council is teaming up with the National Endowment for the Arts and Arts Midwest to encourage educators and community organizations to take advantage of two high-quality arts programs that promote offer free educational resources.

Poetry Out Loud



The NEA's Poetry Out Loud program encourages high school students to study great poetry. This dynamic recitation competition helps students master public speaking skills, build self-confidence, and learn about literary history and contemporary life. Students can sign up to participate in Iowa's statewide competition, through their schools or as individuals, by **Jan. 27**.

NEA Big Read



Arts Midwest is accepting applications for the 2021-2022 National Endowment for the Arts Big Read program, which brings communities together to share the joy of reading and find inspiration in new stories and ideas. Organizations can access up to \$20,000 in support for community-wide reading programs, whether they take place in person,

[REGISTER](#)

online or in a hybrid format. Grant applications are due **Jan. 27**.

[APPLY FOR A GRANT](#)

Take a Turn on the #IowaKeepsCreating Digital Stage



The Iowa Arts Council continues to support, amplify, and celebrate Iowa-based musicians and live performance artists through our "Iowa Keeps Creating" initiative.

We want to hear directly from you! We're interested in partnering with musicians, performing artists and organizations for our new #IowaKeepsCreating Digital Stage.

For our upcoming digital stage, we're requesting previously recorded music or other performances centered on the theme of "Resilience," speaking to the ability to recover from, or adjust to, adversity or change.

[LEARN MORE & SUBMIT A PROPOSAL](#)

20 Artists, 20 Parks ... in 2021!



To celebrate the 2020 centennial of Iowa's state park system, the Iowa Arts Council, Iowa Department of Natural Resources and Iowa State University's College of Design sponsored 20 Iowa State faculty and graduate-student artists to create 20 original artworks inspired by 20 different state parks. The pandemic stalled the statewide traveling exhibition, but its originally scheduled visit to the Sioux City Art Center will continue, starting with a virtual opening reception at **6 p.m. Jan. 29**.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT THE VIRTUAL RECEPTION](#)



Grantee Spotlight: Marshalltown Mural Project

The Marshall County Arts & Cultural Alliance launched a local mural project to revitalize downtown Marshalltown, an Iowa Great Place, by boosting community pride, celebrating the community's Latin American culture, and drawing foot traffic to local businesses. Multiple murals, including a rotating graffiti wall and a sidewalk painting project, popped up this past fall, with several more murals planned for the new year.

Pictured: Artwork under the Sixth Street Viaduct, near the Marshalltown Aquatic Center.